

E S S A Y,



TOWARDS a HISTORICAL TREATISE, on that most Universally Famous, as well as Useful *Art of Typography*, from the first Invention of it at *Harlem*, by *Coster*, with Molds or Blocks of Wood.

An Account of the Invention of single Types, at *Mentz*, by *John Faust* and *Peter Scheffer*.

A Discourse of *Calcography*, or Graving on Brasses and Copper Plates; Cutting on Wood: With some Remarks on the first Performers.

An Historical Relation of the Antiquity of Paper made with Rags, and the Places famous for making thereof: With some Critical Observations on the particular Marks of the first Paper-Makers: Never touch'd on before.

A Catalogue of Books first Printed, from the Year 1450, to 1500, in several Parts of *Europe*; first at *Harlem*, then at *Mentz*; many Parts of *Germany*, *Flanders*, *Holland*, *Italy*, *France*, *Switzerland*, *Spain*, &c.

The Progress thereof into the Kingdoms of *Denmark* and *Swedeland*, Empires of *Russia* and *Turky*, and into the *East* and *West-Indies*.

The LIVES and EFFIGIES of the most Celebrated PRINTERS.

A Chronological and Historical Account of the first Introduction of PRINTING into *England* (in the Reign of *Hen. VI.* or rather *Edw. IV.*) first at *Oxford*, by *Nicholas Cressell*; then at *St. Alban's*; at *Westminster*, by *Caxton*; *London*, by *Richard Pynson*; at *Southwark*, *York*, *Canterbury*, *Tavistock*, *Worcester*, *Ipswich*, *Cambridge*, *Chester*, *Bristol* and *Shrewsbury*.

When PRINTING was first in *Scotland* and *Ireland*.

The Whole intermix'd with many Curious and Critical Remarks, viz. An Account of the Illuminators, and their several Sorts of Ink and Presses.--- The Manner of Binding Books, both by the Ancients and Moderns; their *Devises* and *Rebus's*; and the particular Marks of PRINTERS.

A Catalogue of Books which rarely occur, or are seen in our Modern Catalogues.

GENTLEMEN that are Lovers and Incouragers of *Critical Learning*, and have made any nice *Observations* on any of the aforementioned *Heads*, are humble Requested by the COMPILER of this TREATISE, to communicate them, who will Publish them with all due Acknowledgment.

This UNDERTAKING having already cost the UNDERTAKER considerably, and will still be more Chargeable to him, those that shall be pleased to Contribute towards the Charges thereof, shall have their NAMES, &c. inserted in the Catalogue of the BENEFACTORS.

J. BAGFORD.